

March 14, 1984

LB 880, 880A

yesterday and we've got to be part of that change or we are going to be left behind. Now we are talking about a budget that we need to reduce some costs. This is one way to reduce those costs but do it in a fashion that is the right policy decision. The University of Nebraska has had a similar health care coverage for a number of years. It has worked. It has worked well and it is something that we ought to look at for our state employees. I think if you look at the private industry sector, if you look at how they cover their employees you will find that if we do go with the streamlined plan that I am going to offer on Select File you are still going to be more generous than the private sector. The state employees will still have better health insurance coverage than the private sector. We are not going to be hard on the state employees comparatively speaking. We are going to be hard on them perhaps compared to what they have got now...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...first dollar coverage but that is a thing of the past and it is time we recognize that and dealt with the issue and that ought to be dealt with this session this year. So I am going to vote to advance the bill and I am also going to work on some amendments and I hope that you would keep an open mind and listen to the information I will try and provide to you. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner, would you like to close on the advancement of the bill? The question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The bill advances. We have an A bill on this, don't we, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Yes, sir. Mr. President, 880A by Senator Warner as Chair. (Title read.)